six major terrorist groups operating in India, under their Terrorism Act 2000. The changed international environment following the terrorist attacks in the US on 11th September 2001, have led the UK to press for the complete elimination of the threat posed by international terrorism. UK believes that sustained pressure needs to be put on those States that support, harbor or act in complicity with international terrorist groups. The UK condemns all terrorism and that includes terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. It believes that terrorism has to stop everywhere including in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mechanism to Decide Afghanistan's Future

511. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has written to the heads of many prominent countries about the post Taliban Government in Afghanistan and India's concern about it;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such countries and their response thereto;

(c) whether Government, apart from this are using various diplomatic channels for the same objective; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes sir. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has written to several Heads of State/Government about India's concerns and views regarding the future government structure in Afghanistan, and the need for appropriate framework for international consultation to promote this process. The letter was addressed to Heads of State/Government of Canada, China, France, Germany, Iran, Italy, Japan, Russia, Tazikistan, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

In the letter, Prime Minister elaborated India's stand that the future government in Afghanistan should be broad based, with equitable representation of different ethnic and religious groups; future political structure in Afghanistan should not be allowed to export terrorism or extremism; emphasised the urgency for tackling these issues in an international framework including countries which have legitimate interest in, and influence on these matters and the importance of reconstruction and rehabilitation in the post conflict Afghanistan and in this regard declared government's intention of extending a line of credit

of approximately US$100 million for post conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation work in Afghanistan.

(c) and (d) There has been widespread support in the international community to India's viewpoint on the future government structure in Afghanistan and need to establish a broad based framework to address the evolving military-political and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan Government has been in active touch with several countries on developments in Afghanistan. Several high level foreign dignitaries, including the Prime Minister of UK; US Secretary of State; Foreign Minister of Germany; Deputy Foreign Minister of Russia; Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran and Special Envoys on Afghanistan from France and UK and Special Envoy of Japanese Prime Minister, have visited India since 11th September, 2001 to discuss the evolving military-political situation in Afghanistan. External Affairs Minister has also discussed this issue with his counter parts in several countries. India has also been closely involved in discussions in the United Nations on this subject and also attended the latest meeting of the Group of 21 countries on Afghanistan, held in New York on 16th November 2001. During his recent visits to Russia, US and UK, Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vejpayee had also discussed the question of future government in Afghanistan with the leadership of those countries.

Discussions on International Terrorism and Developments in Afghanistan

512. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of India recently, visited Russia, USA, UK and held discussions with their Heads, particularly, on developments in Afghanistan and present global campaign against international terrorism;

(b) if so, the details/outcome of his discussions; with leaders of these countries in India and abroad; and

(c) whether any agreements/declarations/MoUs have been signed with the above countries indicating the ones that are in favour of India's stand on Jammu and Kashmir and Afghanistan and other regional international issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) and (c) (i) *Russia:* Prime Minister paid a State visit to the Russian Federation from 4—7 November 2001.

During this visit, he had a one-to-one meeting with President of the Russian Federation Mr. Vladimir Putin followed by delegation level talks.